

2013

Honorary Degree Citation: Maria Hinojosa

Governors State University

Follow this and additional works at: <http://opus.govst.edu/commencements>

Recommended Citation

Governors State University, "Honorary Degree Citation: Maria Hinojosa" (2013). *Commencements*. Paper 131.
<http://opus.govst.edu/commencements/131>

This Citation is brought to you for free and open access by the Commencement at OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in Commencements by an authorized administrator of OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. For more information, please contact opus@govst.edu.

Maria Hinojosa

Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa

Maria Hinojosa, born in Mexico, raised in Chicago, and with a college education at Barnard College, has provided exceptional service through a lifetime of work dedicated to telling the stories of those often overlooked by mainstream media. Hinojosa has empowered a wide range of individuals to narrate their own lives and their own experiences. In her own words: “Everyone is equal and everyone has a voice and perspective. For me, that has motivated my journalism.”

Hinojosa may be best known today as executive producer and anchor of *Latino USA*, the award-winning National Public Radio weekly program that focuses on the nation’s highly diverse Latino communities. Her work is equally dedicated to stories of women and girls, of the poor, and of diverse young people caught in gangs and criminal justice systems.

César Chavez said: “We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community . . . Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own.” Hinojosa has taken up this challenge, reminding us of the enduring connections we have as humans, across borders, culture, language, gender, and time.

Maria Hinojosa has a long and distinguished journalism career, working for CBS Radio, PBS, and NPR. She has also hosted the series *Maria Hinojosa: One-on-One* and anchored programs for *Frontline* and for HBO. She founded the Futuro Media Group, which produced a PBS *Need to Know* special on the 2012 elections.

Hinojosa has won multiple national and regional Emmy awards, the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award for Reporting on the Disadvantaged, the Studs Terkel Community Media Award, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists’ Radio Award, the New York Society of Professional Journalists Deadline Award, the Edward R. Murrow Award from the Overseas Press Club, the Sidney Hillman Prize, the National Council of La Raza’s Rubén Salazar Communications Award, and was recently honored with the 2012 John Chancellor Award for Excellence in Journalism.

Hinojosa is the author of three books: *Raising Raul: Adventures Raising Myself and My Son*; *Crews: Gang Members Talk with Maria Hinojosa*; and *The Latino List/La Lista De Latinos*.

For the example of her inspiring professional and personal accomplishments, for her dedication to giving voice to those without voice, for her commitment to social justice and to the American immigrant experience, for her commitment to a nation where we fulfill the dream of equality and justice, the Board of Trustees of Governors State University is proud to confer upon Maria Hinojosa the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, and to welcome her to our community of scholars, educators, and humanitarians.

